

## Message Text

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ACTION SY-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 ST-01 /022 W  
----- 007057

R 302120Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1968

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 0608

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: ARMORED VEHICLE PROGRAM

REF: STATE 006148 AND STATE 018603

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION RELATING TO QUESTIONS A,  
B, C, D AND E OF REFTEL CONCERNING EACH OF THE FIVE 1971  
CHEV BISCAYNE SY FOLLOW CARS IS SUBMITTED:

A. 154691Y140318

B. 52,084 MILES

C. POOR CONDITION

D. FRONT AXLE HAS NOISE - MECHANICS UNABLE TO REPAIR.

E. 6 MONTHS

A. 154691T233869(NOT 154691J233869 AS IN REFTEL)

B. 41,386 MILES

C. POOR CONDITION

D. INVOLVED IN ONE MAJOR AND ONE MINOR ACCIDENT.  
FRAME BENT. RADIATOR PROBLEMS. FRONT WINDSHIELD  
CRACKED.

E. SHOULD BE REPLACED IMMEDIATELY.

A. 154691T234128

B. 42,824 MILES

C. FAIR CONDITION

D. REPLACE BRAKES

E. 6 MONTHS.

A. 154691Y140342

B. 46,134

C. POOR

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D. REPLACE BRAKES. OVERHAUL TRANSMISSION AND

REPLACE UNIVERSAL JOINT.

E. SHOULD BE REPLACED IMMEDIATELY.

A. 154691T233926

B. 46,512

C. FAIR

D. NONE ANTICIPATED

E. 6 MONTHS

2. THE EMBASSY FEELS STRONGLY AND THE RSO CONCURS THAT ALL OF THE ABOVE VEHICLES SHOULD BE REPLACED WITHIN THE NEXT SIX MONTHS OR EARLIER IF POSSIBLE.

3. THE POST ALSO HAS THREE FULLY ARMORED (INCLUDING BULLET PROOF FRONT, REAR AND SIDE WINDOWS) 1969 CHEVROLET IMPALAS USED BY THE AMBASSADOR, DCM AND DIRECTOR USAID. INFORMATION RE THESE THREE AUTOMOBILES GEARED TO QUESTIONS A,B,D, D AND E OF REFTEL IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. 164699Y044859(USED BY DCM)

B. 21,787 MILES

C. FAIR

D. NEEDS FRONT WINDSHIELD REPLACED.

E. 6 MONTHS

A. 164699Y044895(USED BY AMBASSADOR)

B. 52,000 MILES

C. FAIR

D. NONE KNOWN BUT WITH MILEAGE WOULD EXPECT SERIOUS PROBLEMS SOON.

E. SHOULD BE REPLACED IMMEDIATELY.

A. 164699Y044519(USED BY DIRECTOR USAID)

B. 65,000

C. FAIR

D. PROBLEM WITH WHEELS AND FRONT AXEL. MOTOR IS BAD. DOORS NEED WELDING.

E. SHOULD BE REPLACED IMMEDIATELY.

4. THE POST ALSO STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE ABOVE VEHICLE ASSIGNED TO THE AMBASSADOR AND DIRECTOR USAID BE REPLACED WITH FULLY ARMORED VEHICLES AND THAT A NEW WINDSHIELD BE INSTALLED IN THE DCM'S VEHICLE.

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5. ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE BASED UPON PRESENT SECURITY REQUIREMENTS. HOWEVER THE EMBASSY SECURITY WATCH COMMITTEE INTENDS TO STUDY THE ENTIRE SECURITY SITUATION AFTER THE ELECTIONS IN EARLY MARCH 1974 AND WILL SUBMIT FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ARMORED VEHICLE PROGRAM  
**TAGS:** ASEC  
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